

Meet the Chief

The Mattoon Fire Department is lead by Fire Chief Anthony “Tony” Nichols, He was selected as the Fire Chief by action of the City Council following the retirement of Fire Chief Mike Chism on September 30, 2009.. Nichols was selected as Mattoon’s next fire chief. The selection by the Fire commissioner was confirmed by the City Council during its July meeting. A proud native of Mattoon and a graduate of Mattoon High School, Nichols enlisted in the United States Navy after High School and was honorably discharged after serving his enlistment. Chief Nichols began his fire service career with the Mattoon Fire Department in 1994. He was promoted to Engineer/Driver in May of 2000 and Captain in August of 2004. Nichols is a 2

nd

generation firefighter, his father retired from the Mattoon fire department after 27 honorable years.

Chief Nichols and his wife Lisa have been married for 19 years and are the proud parents of three children, Austin (1993) Anthony “AJ” (1995) and Ivy (1998)